

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A change-speed system for a utility vehicle, comprising:
 - a gear change-speed device operated for change speed in response to an operation of an actuator;
 - a hydraulic clutch for selectively engaging/disengaging power transmission to the gear change-speed device;
 - a current-controlled valve mechanism for feeding pressure oil to the hydraulic clutch; and
 - a hydraulic clutch controlling portion for controlling oil pressure in the hydraulic clutch by controlling a value of electric current to the valve mechanism;wherein the hydraulic clutch controlling portion is operable to initiate a disengaging process of the hydraulic clutch based on initiation of the operation of the actuator and operable also to initiate an engaging process of the hydraulic clutch based on completion of the operation of the actuator;
- wherein said engaging process of the hydraulic clutch includes a first engaging sub-process for rapidly raising the oil pressure to the hydraulic clutch for a predetermined period and a second engaging sub-process for gradually raising the oil pressure to the hydraulic clutch which has been temporarily dropped subsequent to said first sub-process; and
- wherein there is provided a manual setting device for adjusting the value of the electric current to the valve mechanism from the hydraulic clutch controlling portion in said second engaging sub-process.

2. (Original) The change-speed system according to claim 1, wherein said hydraulic clutch controlling portion includes a first engaging sub-process controlling portion for controlling said first engaging sub-process and a second engaging sub-process controlling portion for controlling said second engaging sub-process; and

said second engaging sub-process controlling portion includes a reference control characteristics generating portion for generating reference control characteristics for controlling the current value to be supplied to the valve mechanism and an offset amount setting portion for setting an offset amount relative to said reference control characteristics in order to adjust said reference control characteristics, in response to an instruction from said manual setting device.

3. (Original) The change-speed system according to claim 2, wherein said offset amount remains constant in said second engaging sub-process.

4. (Original) The change-speed system according to claim 2, wherein said offset amount is a time factor value which varies over time in said second engaging sub-process.

5. (Original) The change-speed system according to claim 1, wherein said manual setting device is provided as a special setting mode screen generated by an operation on a switch equipped in a control panel unit with a display.

6. (Currently Amended) The change-speed system according to claim 1, wherein said first engaging sub-process controlling portion includes a shifting time measuring portion for measuring a shifting time period from the initiation of the operation of the actuator to completion thereof and a one-shot time determining portion for determining execution time period for the first engaging sub-process based on said shifting time period.

7. (New) A change-speed system for a utility vehicle, comprising:
a gear change-speed device operated for change speed in response to an operation of an actuator;
a hydraulic clutch for selectively engaging/disengaging power transmission to the gear change-speed device;
a current-controlled valve mechanism for feeding pressure oil to the hydraulic clutch; and

a hydraulic clutch controlling portion for controlling oil pressure in the hydraulic clutch by controlling a value of electric current to the valve mechanism;

wherein the hydraulic clutch controlling portion is operable to initiate a disengaging process of the hydraulic clutch based on initiation of the operation of the actuator and operable also to initiate an engaging process of the hydraulic clutch based on completion of the operation of the actuator;

wherein said engaging process of the hydraulic clutch includes a first engaging sub-process for rapidly raising the oil pressure to the hydraulic clutch for a predetermined period and a second engaging sub-process for gradually raising the oil pressure to the hydraulic clutch which has been temporarily dropped subsequent to said first sub-process;

wherein there is provided a manual setting device for adjusting the value of the electric current to the valve mechanism from the hydraulic clutch controlling portion in said second engaging sub-process;

wherein said hydraulic clutch controlling portion includes a first engaging sub-process controlling portion for controlling said first engaging sub-process and a second engaging sub-process controlling portion for controlling said second engaging sub-process; and

wherein said second engaging sub-process controlling portion includes a reference control characteristics generating portion for generating reference control characteristics for controlling the current value to be supplied to the valve mechanism and an offset amount setting portion for setting an offset amount relative to said reference control characteristics in order to adjust said reference control characteristics, in response to an instruction from said manual setting device.

8. (New) The change-speed system according to claim 7, wherein said offset amount remains constant in said second engaging sub-process.

9. (New) The change-speed system according to claim 7, wherein said offset amount is a time factor value which varies over time in said second engaging sub-process.

10. (New) The change-speed system according to claim 7, wherein said first engaging sub-process controlling portion includes a shifting time measuring portion for

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measuring a shifting time period from the initiation of the operation of the actuator to completion thereof and a one-shot time determining portion for determining execution time period for the first engaging sub-process based on said shifting time period.